



**Want to learn more? Find the detail you need to make decisions on your remodel with the following resources.**

#### Print

- *Building with Vision: Optimizing and Finding Alternatives to Wood* by Dan Imhoff, et al. (Watershed Media, 2001). Don't be fooled by the title: this book gives a good overview of the environmental and health impacts of building materials, and lists environmentally friendly alternatives.
- *No-Regrets Remodeling* from *Home Energy* Magazine. Excellent general reference for home remodels, focusing on energy savings at [www.homeenergy.org](http://www.homeenergy.org) (click on *Home Energy Products*)
- *The New Natural House Book* by David Pearson (Fireside Publishers, 1998)

#### Online

##### General

- Built Green [www.builtgreen.net](http://www.builtgreen.net). This local program helps Puget Sound homebuyers find quality, affordable homes that offer opportunities to protect the health of their families and the Northwest environment. A version developed for remodeling projects is available.
- Northwest Ecobuilding Guild *Green Pages*: [www.ecobuilding.org/gp/](http://www.ecobuilding.org/gp/) The Ecobuilding Guild is an association of builders, designers, homeowners, and others concerned with ecological building. The *Green Pages*, available online and in print, is a key resource for finding "green" building professionals in your area.

Natural remodel or not, there are general tips for hiring a contractor. See the Federal Trade Commission's tips on hiring a contractor: [www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/homeimp/index](http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/homeimp/index)

##### Appliances and Fixtures

- [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) Find energy efficient products with the Energy Star product locator.
- Seattle Public Utilities customers can receive up to \$100 in rebates on qualified water- and energy-efficient clothes washers through the WashWise program. See [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org) for details.
- See *Energy and Water Efficiency* below for information on water saving toilets that perform well.

##### Certified Wood

Protect our forests by purchasing wood that's been certified as responsibly harvested. The Forest Stewardship Council offers third-party verification of responsible forestry practices from forest to the retailer's shelf. Learn more about forest products certification from the Certified Wood and Paper Association website at [www.cwpa.info](http://www.cwpa.info)

##### Energy and Water Efficiency

- See *Appliances and Fixtures* above.
- The Saving Water Partnership: [www.savingwater.org](http://www.savingwater.org). Find water-saving tips for home and garden, including test results showing how low-flow toilets stack up.
- Energy-efficient lighting: find tips for efficient and beautiful bath lighting in articles at [www.elflist.com](http://www.elflist.com)

##### Indoor Air Quality

- EPA: "Addressing Indoor Environmental Concerns During Remodeling" online guide, including tips specific to bathrooms [www.epa.gov/iaq/homes/hip-goodwork.html](http://www.epa.gov/iaq/homes/hip-goodwork.html)
- The American Lung Association of Washington offers the Master Home Environmentalist program, which includes free in-home assessments to identify hazards. See [www.alaw.org/air\\_quality/master\\_home\\_environmentalist/](http://www.alaw.org/air_quality/master_home_environmentalist/) for details on the program.
- See *Paints & Finishes* and *Remodeling Hazards*, below.

### **Materials Selection and Use**

[www.buildinggreen.com](http://www.buildinggreen.com) "What Makes a Material or Product Green?" A great overview article of the various considerations used to determine environmental and health performance of products.

### **Paints and Finishes**

- King County's tips on selecting and using paint: [www.metrokc.gov/hazwaste/house/paint.html](http://www.metrokc.gov/hazwaste/house/paint.html)
- Washington Toxics Coalition's article on Paints, Finishes, and Wood Preservatives: [www.watoxics.org](http://www.watoxics.org) (click on *Toxics in the Home* and then *Building Materials*).

### **Recycling and Reuse**

Many items on a construction job can be reused or recycled. Additionally, careful deconstruction on the existing bath can yield trim, cabinetry, fixtures, and more for reuse, either in your project or in others.

- List or find building materials on the Reusable Building Materials Exchange: [www.2good2toss.com](http://www.2good2toss.com)
- Have your contractor join the *Construction Works* program through the Resource Venture ([www.resourceventure.org](http://www.resourceventure.org)).

### **Remodeling Hazards (Asbestos, Lead, and Formaldehyde)**

- See Indoor Air Quality, above, specifically the American Lung Association of Washington—Master Home Environmentalist program.
- Washington Toxics Coalition: [www.watoxics.org](http://www.watoxics.org) (click on *Toxics in the Home*)

### **Toxics Reduction**

Washington Toxics Coalition [www.watoxics.org](http://www.watoxics.org)

### **Universal Design**

- The AARP design tool at [www.aarp.org/universalhome/](http://www.aarp.org/universalhome/) includes an online tour of an accessible bathroom.
- National Kitchen and Bath Association maintains a list of Design and Safety Guidelines to assist remodeling activities. Available at [www.nkba.org](http://www.nkba.org) (Click on *Tips from the Pros* and then *Online Remodeling Guide*).

Find the guide that accompanies this resource list at [www.seattle.gov/sustainablebuilding](http://www.seattle.gov/sustainablebuilding) (click on *Green Home Remodel*). If you're a Seattle resident, call Seattle Public Utilities' Sustainable Building Program at (206) 615-0731 to receive a print version of the resource list or other brochures in this series.